

REMARKS

This application is a divisional application being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) of U.S. Serial No. 09/920,999, filed August 2, 2001.

Applicants have paid the issue fee for U.S. Serial No. 09/920,999.

The prior application was originally filed with claims 1 to 5.

Claims 2 and 5 have been canceled above and claims 1, 3, and 4 have been amended above. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found generally throughout the specification.

Claims 1, 3, and 4 will be pending after entry of the above amendments.

Original claims 1, 3, and 4 have been amended above. Original claims 1, 3, and 4 were rejected in an Office Action on the parent application dated July 30, 2003 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,582,794 (Hagiwara et al.). Hagiwara et al. describe a combined oxygenator and blood reservoir/filter. Applicants respectfully submit that the present amended claims 1, 3, and 4 are not taught or suggested by Hagiwara et al. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to recite that a heat exchanger is contained in a central portion of a cylindrical oxygenator, and claim 3 has been amended to recite that the oxygenator is contained within a cylindrical opening of an arterial filter.

Accordingly, the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Preliminary Amendment
Applicants: Nicola Ghelli et al.
Serial No.: **To Be Assigned**

Attorney Docket: DID1039USD1

If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-2312. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/19/04

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